Throwing for Life and Death.

BY DAVID KER. (Copyrighted 1887 by Bachellar & Co. "Poor young fellers! Will they really

A True Story.

kill 'em both ?9" "No help for it, Jack-the king's orders is strict, you know. Why, I heard one o' is strict, you know. Why, I heard one o' give to your readers. I have been acquaint the h'officers say just now that it was werry ed with the Chariton river for over 30 kind of him to let 'em be shot instead of hangin' 'em."

ain't two smarter lads than them in our company-no, nor in the whole regiment, neither, if it comes to that."

to each other as they stood ranged in long except in very high floods, do we not all scarlet lines around the wide, bare space know the amount of drift that passes down of open ground in which two of their comrades were to die.

William III, with his English and Dutch soldiers, was at death grips with the French | River." army in Flanders, and the strictest orders had been issued against plundering by the chiefs of the allied forces. For a breach of those orders these two Englishmen had

about to be shot. The doomed men were kneeling side by had refused to be blindfedded) at the twelve grenadiers who were about to take their lives Up or down, in the front of battle or on the place of execution, there was no "white feather" about Tom Hackett and

But the men of the firing party were not so composed as their destined victims. They looked sullen and gloomy and audible murmurs ran from mouth to mouth.

"If they had been killed in a fair tight" said one rough fellow, "it wouldn't matter \$120,000, that at least one-half this land Russian prison above you, a stifling so much, for that's all in the days work, and just what might happen to you or me or anybody. But to be shot down this way in cold blood-why, it don't seem natteral,

have to do it, neither," ground another. "Way, poor Tom ther shared his rations

Frenchman, 'cause they're our natteral purchasers to buy it of the court again or born enemies, and it don't matter how lose all their money, labor etc. to havin' to stand up and send a bullet kind being perpetrated on Chariton county through your own comrade, that's fought I shall ever be thankful that the "hands of yet learned to throw the boomerang Decatur and Peoria, and are free to passengers. shoulder to shoulder with you through this Hon. Court are tied down.', many a hot day's work-well it does come rather hard on a fellow and no mistake !"

But, all this while, what could it be to at was delaying the execution? There were the two estimates prepared to receive the death volley, which the firing party were death volley, which the firing party were could be ready to deliver the moment they and still the order was not given.

was not at all willing to lose, if he could tax receipt. possibly help it, two men who were admit. The next rob on Peter or rather the civiaccused of stealing had been taken only piece of swamp band of the Wabash rail when they were actually starving, and that road paid it out and had to turn around their general character h. d been excellent and buy it again of this Hon. Court.

penalty, or at least to get it commuted; clatter of horses' hoefs was "heard and an this swamp land had all to be paid up in and before I had made a move she officer came galloping up to him with a the next 60 days, at least \$ of all this land knocked me to my knees. Before I

er moment it clouded again.

king, taking into consideration the facts to infer from his assertion at least that it is door and coolly announced: "Mr. put forward by the colonel, had been gra- a great wonder that any person living with Blank, please get up-I've killed a clisusly pleased to grant a pardon to one of in 2 miles of said river are able to live at the two culprits, and that a throw of the all. Really to believe one half of Mr. Q's. dice (as the custom was in those days) story would cause any person not acquaintshould decide which one it was to be. could served them both, " muttered the fabled Upas tree of old.

announced the king's decision. for themselves how much harder to bear open and view the "Drainage Trick" in than even the terror of death itself is the its proper light. Yours Truly, andden shock of an unexpected chance of

life at the very last moment. A grizzled color sergeant placed the dice box on the head of a drum and Tom Hack-

ett threw first.

Bill seemed to think the same, for his er ought to be sent to the penitenwhole face bardened suddenly like con- tiary for five years. gealed metal; but he took the box, never-that ain't long enough," said theless, and threw in his turn, the old fellow. "Lets put in on him Then a cry of astonishment broke from fur ten."

every lip. * *
Bill Ramsden had also thrown double

"They must throw again," said the coloael grimly, for he was bitterly angered by jury?" this unlooked for prolongation of the poor "The wretches' agony of suspense.

This time Tom Hackett threw double five and the next moment his comrade did The general amazement was now too

great for words, and the only sound that great for words, and the only sound that broke the universal silence was the old sergeant's muttered exclamation

eyes I wouldn't never have believed it." A third time the fatal cast was tried and "Think I have" throwing a quid

both men threw double four ! "This is the hand of God," said Colonel Neville solemnly. "Major Summerton, suspend the execution till I come back;

I'm going to the king myself."

Colonel Naville did go to the king himself as fast as his horse could carry him, He went up for and returned with a radiant face ten min- kansaw Traveler. utes later, bringing with him a free pardon

BUTTER TAFFY: -One cup of sugar the end of a cyclone and shake the half cup of molases, two tablespoon-fuls of water, two of vinegar, butter it is for an anti-Cockrell candidate he size of an egg. Boil until it will for representative to be elected from briden in cold water; then cool in Boone county or for any combination to control the county offices."

STRAIGHTENING THE CHARITON.

WESTVILLE. Mo., May 24, 1886. EDITOR COURTER. Having noticed an article in your last issue leaded "Straightening the Chariton River," upon which I wish to say a few words and to make a few suggestions to the people of Old Chariton. First, In answer to Mr. Quinn's plan of straightening the stream, this may do in small rises but in extremely high rises this I think will require a levre of at least 8 or 10 feet high in order to confine this vast vo'ume of water to the channel, and also cause a great additional expense. Mr. Q. has gone on and has shown all the bright side and plausible points but has given none of the other side, this I propose to years and have seen it a number of times over 3 miles wide and for 2 miles of that "Well, it does seem 'ard, anyhow. There distance sufficiently deep to swim a horse, Now for such an amount of water passing through a channel 20 feet wide and 10 feet deep Think of it. Even if this channel So the stout English grenadiers muttered should be sufficient to carry the water off. the river in one year would be such as to block this new channel from head to mouth next the Great Baft at Shreveport on Red

Mr. Quinn speaks of the owners of this swamp land, that they will have to pay the expense of drainage and those living on the upland will have to bear none of the burbeen condemned to death, and were now den. How is this? Did we not see allow ance of \$250 made to Carter and Quinn for surveying Chariton River, how is this, will side in the middle of the open space, look- the owners of "swamp land" pay this or ing straight and unflinchingly (for both will the County at large be taxed? Piease answer. Again, you speak of having \$250,-000 to invest in this land as soon as the contract to drain is let.

If this is such a very great and paying thing as you think, why not invest now and Bill Ransom, full privates in the fighting drain afterward. As I infer from your ver sions of drainage law this matter rests almost entirely with those owning the land. I not your common defender?" Why not buy and do not wait for contract to be let? Again, Mr. Quinn, do you not know that if the contract is let at the estiwill be suffered to forfeit and to fall back taint of German oppression, a stench "No, nor it don't seem natteral for us to ful that this court is tied down by the law,

fact how a few years ago this same "swamp bread with me only t'other day and many's land" was gambled away by this "Hon. the bit o' baccy I've got from al B.ll when | Court" to the Wabash railroad and when I was hard up for some 'at to put in my bought by innocent persons and paid for the room close and offensive. Go month; and now I,ve got to take and kill by hard taber by the purchasers, up comes this Hon. Court in a few cents (not "Aye, that's just where it is," chimed in the same persons composing the Cour' of a third. I don't mind pu lin' trigger on a course) and take it away and compels the

many o' them one kills, but when it comes To prevent any more outrages of this

Mr. Q. speaks of "Peter has been robbed to enrich Paul." We shall now consider "Silence in the ranks!" shouted Colouel that Chariton county as being Peter We Neville, sternly; and the grumblers were shall just mention instances in which we equally ready to deliver the moment they sting of it every time taxpaying comes the word; but minute passed after minute, around. When taxes of the county en \$11.00 is \$9 85, I think this a pretty heavy and the new-comer was very careless The fact was that Colonel Neville-who rob on Peter, to prove this I can produce a about the door of night. On two or

ted to be the smartest soldiers in the whole zens of this county is this same "swamp the back door unlocked. I cautioned regiment-had drawn up a statement of land" gamble. In this vicinity is one of their case and sent it to the king hunself, the many instances in which innocent per pointing out that the food which they were sons had to suiter. This person bought a

Now, citizens of Chariton give this your By means of this plea the colonel still earnest thought and "look before you leap." hoped to obtain a remission of the death Chariton, owing to the several robberies committed on her-is carrying quire a bur and his weather beaten vissage flushed den in the shape of taxes, and hard as out of bed with a 'You villain!' on with sudden and numerated emotion as a times are, if the taxes or rather later set on her lips, seized a chair by the back, would revert back to Chariton county for could get out of the room she struck The old soldler's face brightened visibly failure to pay said interest.

as he read the first few lines; but in anoth- I am surprised at Mr. Q's. broad asser tumbled down the back stairs that tion that it would improve the health of she gave the alarm. Then she went The paper set forth that his majesty the Chariton county so wonderfully. We are through to my room, rapped on the el with Chariton river in its present "Well, that's better than nothing. Lut I swampy condition is next to visiting the

colonel saddy as he turned to his men and For my part I think Mr. Q with all of JAMES H. COMPTON,

> Westville, Mo. His Reason.

A jury composed of eleven busi-"Poor Bill" muttered one of the men, "its all up with his chance; he can't beat that nohow."

"In y composed of eleven bustness men and an old fellow from across the creek retired to the jury of an egg. Boil until it will harden in cold water, then cool in buttered that nohow." remarked that he thought the prison-

"Oh. no, that won't do." "Wall, then," stretching himself out on a bench, "I'm with yer." "What, you going to hang the

"That's about it." "My dear sir, we are auxious to get back to our business."

"Then send him up for ten." "But that would be a great injus-

"Have you any special reason "Well, if I hadn't see'd that with my own why the prisoner should go up for ten years?"

> of tobacco at the spitte "Will you please name it?" "Yes, fur it won't take me long. He is my son-in-law an' I have been supportin' him ever since he was

He went up for ten years .- Ar-

BRO. RODEMYRE, of the Centralia Guard, says "it is easier to untwist

An old negro, much alarmed, went

to a judge and said: "Jedge, dar's er lot er haugs been stold in my neighborhood lately, an' fust thing yer know somebody's gwine ter be errested. I knows who tuck evidence I'll tell yer."

"You were concerned, eh?" "Yas, sah; an' if yer'll let me turn de everdence I'll tell yer zackly who tuck dem haugs."

"All right." "Won't do nothin' wid me?" "Not a thing."

"Will yer sw'ar it?" "Yes, if necessary." "But will yer put it in writin'?"

The judge drew up the agreement, and when he had read it the old ne-

gro said:

"Dat soun's sorter like it. Sho" dis dockyment 'li stan'?" "Of course it will. Now tell me who stole the hogs."

"Won't do nothin' wid me?" "Well, jedge, I stold dem haugs merse'f. Good-day, sah. I thanks yer kinness."-Arkansaw yer fur Traveler.

Boycott.

The following by Burdette in

the term "boycott" One day a boycott strolled into therefore estimates a deficit of \$24 .the tool-house and sat down for a 589,000 for that year.

"Excuse us," replied an old dollars. sledge, who was seven up in the civil They should be locked up, if it service list, "but you don't seem to can be done lawfully! mate Mr. Carter and yourself have mule, be one of us; there is a smell of to Chariton county. Mr. Quinn speaks of of English repression, and a foul our Hon. County Court being willing to odor of Hungarian pauperism, a gen-

> the "Oregon" for about six months. and you will come back as clean as a

with danger to his enemy or safety

Not Afraid of Burgiars.

think old Peter has been cruelly fleeced in Ph give it to you fellows," said a souri, bearing date May 12th, 1885 All a month ago we changed hired girls, they shall be forever barred. three occassions I came down stairs at midnight to find a window up or her, but it did no good. I therefore

determined to put up a job on her. "I got some whiskers and an old rig, and one night about 11 o'clock Light Brehma, Langshan, per doz...
I crept up the back stairs to her Plymouth flock and Pearl Gainess I crept up the back stairs to her si room. She was snoring away like a trooper, but the minute I struck a match she awoke. I expected a great yelling and screaming, and nothing of the sort took place. She bounced burglar."-Detroit Free Press.

A COUPLE of infidels were once standing together on the deck of a vessel as she glided past a desolate island of the sea. One said to his enterprise had better hold off with this condemned to live on this island Then, for the first time, the doomed men drainage business till "Peter" gets some alone, and had the choice of but one Then, for the first time, the doomed men drainage business in I refer gets some alone, and had the choice of but one of the present load off of his shoulders, so book for your companion; what book that we can stand another fleecing and I or books would you choose?" I leaped into the smoke of the French bat- am pretty well satisfied that by the time would select Shakespeare, because of teries) grew white as death. And well Old Peter gets this loud off his hands he the variety of his themes." "Well" they might: for all who have felt it know will be about 9 days old and have his eyes rejoined the other, "although I do not believe in the Bible. yet I would choose it for my companion; for the Bible is an endless book."

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The total estimated revenue of the United States for the fiscal year 1887 is \$315,000,000.

The total of the estimated ordinary expenditures, including sinking fund the Brooklyn Eagle explains clearly for the same year is \$339,589,000. The Secretary of the Treasury

chat. The hammer and a saw, a In face of this condition of the napegging awl and a towel and other tional finances the pension cranks honest tools took advantage of the and demagogues in Congress are urgentrance of a boy looking for some- ing new pension schemes, which mean thing he had no business to take to in the aggregate an additional annual move a little farther away. Why charge of from \$100,000,000 to \$200,do you avoid me?" asked the boy- 000,000, an immediate outlay of from cott; "am I not a friend of labor?" \$500,000,000 to \$750,000,000, and Am I not its mightest weapon? Am an ultimate expenditure on this account of from one to three billions of

donate liberally to this if their hands were not tied by the law. I for one am thankthat we don't like. We know it isn't for the New York Central Sleeping Car Co., is one of All your readers are conversant with the your fault; it was born of tyranny the most gargeously fitted-up cars in the country, and and helplessness, but it isn't American, and it isn't pleasant. You have the first of five similar ones ordered for the Walash Line between St. Lows, Boston and New York. It is finished in white oak and French plate glass. The a foreign air about you that makes seats have a luxurious head-rest, and are a vast improvements on the old style of low backs. The paneling is tie's and artistic, and the berths all ha out and wade around and hunt for electric tells and other conveniences,

The Globe-Democrat of the same date, says: Chinaman. Go soak yourself, boy- workmanship. Which are intended for the St. Dails cott yourself, and see how glad we'll and Chicago trains. The conches are highy finished, be to welcome you into the shop." carpeted with brussels, the chairs being covered with This fable teaches us to remember in the cars, and they are unexcelled by those of an that no civilized, Christian man ever other line. They are from the Wabash shops a

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that letters of of administration on the estate of Armstead Johnson de: eased, have been granted me by "It's a joke on me, of course, but the probate court of Chariton county, Mis window is securely fastened. About claims are not presented within two years

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